



July 1997

Volume XXVI Issue 7

Jim's Journal

Volume V



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Greetings,

Well, July has finally brought forth those "hazy, lazy days of summer". June and July have sure had some low points and highlights in technology with the crash on the Mir and the landing of the Mars robot. Isn't it ironic that we can send a little robot to land on Mars, drive it around, take pictures and send them back perfectly while most of the population cannot seem to get their VCR's to quit blinking 12:00. This would be a great opportunity to get on the "soap box" but I will resist the temptation.

As most of you know from using the repeaters here in Ft. Wayne we have a user who seems to have a medical problem dealing with too much body gas. Apparently a reflex causes him to key the mike whenever one of these discharges is about to occur. I'm sure he is probably aware some folks take offense to his gastric and mental afflictions. I have ask some professionals about this person's problems and they say provoking him will only make those problems worse. So we must understand and either pretend we did not hear it or move to a different frequency. Get well soon.

The June meeting was a resounding success for most of the people who attended. First of all was a mini Hamfest in the parking lot. D&L Electronics cleaned out their garage and Walt and I brought the stuff out for every one to help themselves. KB9DOT & KB9DOS also brought in a box of 400 MHz walki's for any one who needed them, all this stuff was free for the taking! The meeting was highlighted with Todd Hargis giving a presentation on use of the Internet. During the demo he established a voice hookup with a chap in New Zealand and I was very surprised at the quality of the voice communication.

The 1997 version of the Fort Wayne Radio Club Field day was again a very nice and successful activity. There were communication tents for all bands from H.F through VHF. We had lots of food and good

Next Meeting:

Friday

July 18, 1997

7:30 PM

The Good Shepherd
United Methodist
Church.

weather. Thanks goes out to all who participated and helped set up. One person stands out in my mind who went above and beyond the call of duty. Bill Hall, for all your help at field day and all the things you have done for this club, accept my humble thank you, the Club is very lucky to have a person like you.

I will close for now leaving you with this thought: By time you make both ends meet, both ends have moved.

73's Jim, K9OMA



June Minutes

1. The June meeting of the Ft. Wayne Radio Club was held at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church on 20 June, 1997. There were about 25 persons in attendance. The meeting was hosted by President Jim Pliett.
2. The May minutes were read and there were no corrections.
3. Treasurer Carl Rittenhouse reported that as of 20 June, 1997 the Club's General account held a balance of \$6033.84, the Hamfest account held a balance of \$500.00, and the Repeater account held a balance of \$2354.44.
4. The last Foxhunt featured Ann and Jim Pliett as the prey. They hid out on West County Line Road and, despite their best efforts, were ferreted out by KB9DOP followed by N9AVR and N9MKB, and then KB9's DOS/DOT. Year-to-date, our Foxhunt point leaders are Cliff, N9MKB and Walt, N9AVR.

Fort Wayne
Radio Club

Since 1920

The HAMSPLATTER is published monthly by the Fort Wayne Radio Club, PO Box 15127 Fort Wayne, IN, 46885

Todd Hargis, N9XRG Editor; 492-2138 Jim Pliett, K9OMA President; Bill Stockslager, KF2BF, Vice President; Al Burke, WB9SSE, Secretary 637-1989; Carl Rittenhouse, N9NRO, Treasurer 485-4012; Larry Burke, N9HVP, Communications Manager

5. Jim Pliett reported that maintenance had been completed on the .76/.16 machine, but the 440 machine was still sick. Both the .94/.34 and ATV machines were healthy and operating normally. A new positioning drive for the ATV Sky Camera had been obtained as was in the process of being installed at the ATV site. Cliff Shreve provided handouts documenting the motion control command instructions for those interested.
6. Cliff reported that the Saturday evening Field Day feed would feature brats, kraut, baked beans, potato salad and maybe apple dumplings, and would start at 6 pm. It is again being held at Payton Park and will feature two HF stations, a six meter station and a two meter station.
7. After the business meeting was concluded, the 50-50 prize was determined. A total of \$28 was collected so the prize was \$14. Despite calls from the floor of □Fix, Fix□, the bona-fide winner of the prize was Jim Pliett. No kidding. There were also two consolation prizes in the form of tickets to the upcoming Jackson, Michigan Hamfest. These gems were won by Bill Stockslager and Walt Wood.
8. Following the meeting Todd Hargis provided a presentation on the Internet.

Respectfully submitted,
Al Burke, WB9SSE



INARRL BULLETIN 49-97

June 18, 1997

CK's Ode To Dah Code

Thanks to Gary Spence, VA2CK, for his poem.

We've all heard the cry "abandon the code!", it's useless outdated, NOT a mod-er-n mode!"

So I said to myself, "could codes' day really be over?"

Best left for SKs' fer-til-iz-n' the clover?"

So off went my paddle 'n keyer to a museum, so those curious of our "past" could drop in an' see um.

I then bought a computer and a box I was told... would update my station, using all hi-tech modes.

It then was set up, all by my own hand... the screen it lit up et voilà Heard Island!

I switched to transmit to "talk with this gent" but my screen read "sorry, can't copy 100%!"

"There's static, interference if you could hear it you'd agree... if it ain't armchair copy we machines cry c'est la vie!"

It then said, "There is as YOU know a way to get through, it's called the code, and what luck for you!"

"You've learned this art, you "stuck it out" 'tis a valuable tool, there isn't a doubt."

"You've invested your time, and besides the code you did learn, possession of valuable skills must be... EARNED!"

So I say to you now, don't get fooled when some say...

"Codes an' old dinosaur fadin' away!"

It's part of our past, present and future existence... anti-coders prepare for "beaucoup de resistance"

73 es CUL de

Michelle WA4WSP & Jeff W0QO

How about it, we have anymore poems or verse out there? Get it to KA9QWC so it can be put in a bulletin for all to see.

You can reach me via packet = KA9QWC@KF9UG.#NIN.IN.USA.N OAM or

EMAIL = don39@centralnet.net, mail or telephone 219-723-4793.

/ex□

INARRL BULLETIN 51-97

June 18, 1997

Michigan City ARC

Some notes from the "THE HARBOR BEAM" in review.

The Harbor Beam is published monthly and mailed free to Members. This site is dedicated to all the former members who have moved away, but still keep in touch, and the club in there heart. Feel Free to e-mail us.

Back in AUGUST 1996 K9ET - Bob Lyles - Published the TV-Twinlead Antenna and presented his home brew antenna at the club meeting. It actually worked better then his rubber duck. Its simple design is perfect for Field Day or Emergency Communications.

With Bob being our county's EC, one could only wonder why he built it. It worked great for 2 Meters. To build one it is very simple. You will need a TV-Twin Antenna Wire greater then 53 3/4 inches. The excess is for making a loop on the end to attach the antenna to.

Fort Wayne Radio Club Memo

Date: 7/10/97

To: All members of The Fort Wayne Radio Club

From: Fort Wayne Radio Club Board

RE: Deletions from mailing list

It has come to the attention of the Board of the Fort Wayne Radio Club that certain members have been inadvertently removed from the mailing list. We can assure you that this oversight will be dealt with immediately to correct this serious error. We the Board apologize for any inconveniences or misconceptions that this may have caused. We recognize the many hours, which these people have put toward the improvement of the club in various activities. The club would not be what it is today if it were not for the generous contributions of these people.

If there are any members who you know are not receiving their newsletters, please contact anyone on the Board or the President.

TH

Measure and trim both sides of the Twinlead to 53 3/4 inches. On the bottom of Twinlead connect and solder the two sides. At 1 1/4 inches from the bottom bare the wires on both sides for connecting a coax cable. On one side measure up from the bottom 16 1/2 inches, if antenna is not to be enclosed in a CPVC-pipe, and cut a 1/4-inch notch cutting the wire.

If antenna is to be placed in a CPVC-Pipe then measure 15 3/4 inches and cut notch. Solder coax shielding to notched side of the twin lead, and solder center feed to long side or unnotched side. You are done, you can place the twin lead antenna in a CPVC-Pipe to protect it and keep it straight.

Thanks to the MCARC for posting this information on their web site. □

INARRL 52-97

June 18, 1997

How to "drive" your new rig
By Charlie Murray, WD9ITM

Have you ever seen a poor driver, and said, "I wonder how he passed his driver's test?" We all know that passing the driver's exam doesn't mean the person will be a good driver. The same can be said for amateur radio. Passing the exam doesn't mean the person will be a good radio operator. It takes experience and good judgment to accomplish that feat!

Many years ago when I entered into the ham radio hobby, someone was good enough to write a newsletter article that helped me realize the kind of operating procedures that were good and others that I should forget.

Hopefully, I can return the favor with this article.

Talk as you would during a face-to-face conversation. Instead of saying "we're clear", say "I'm clear", unless there are two of you! "I'm quiet" or "I'll be going that-a-way" might be appropriate for another type of radio, but in ham radio a station just signs with "KB9XYZ clear".

When identifying your station just give your call sign, "this is KB9XYZ". No need to add "for identification" because we already know why you identified.

When calling another station don't ask if he has his ears on. Hams are good listeners. I have yet to see a ham that left home without his ears!

(Although my XYL doesn't think I listen to her very well!) Simply say, "KB9XYZ this is W9XYZ". No need to shout because your radio equipment will amplify your voice when working properly. A good operator sends short calls separated by concentrated listening periods.

When two stations are in conversation about a specific subject, adding your inputs or insights to their conversation is always welcome. A station that signs on and then starts talking about a completely unrelated topic is disrupting instead of adding to their conversation.

"Can somebody give me a radio check?" You may or may not get a reply. On the other hand, If you announce that you are listening, someone will surely reply and you can then inquire as to how your audio sounds or ask whatever you need to ask.

"QSL" is sometimes overworked. Some operators fall into the habit of starting each reply with "QSL". QSL means you acknowledge receipt. If you simple reply, you ARE acknowledging reply with "QSL". QSL means you acknowledge receipt. If you simple reply, you ARE acknowledged.

You MAY NOT use obscene, indecent or profane language. That's the law, and although some people seem to get away

with it on the HF bands, you'll find that users of VHF and UHF (not to mention the control operators of the repeater) generally won't tolerate it!

As far as deliberate interference goes, the best way to deal with another station interfering with your communications is to completely ignore their presence. Never mention them, or even let them know that you hear them, and they will soon grow tired of not being recognized.

It's the hams way of shunning, an Amish punishment.

Many non-hams monitor our ham frequencies. They judge all of us by what they hear. Let's give them a positive image of our hobby. Always use your best operating procedures.

I believe the ARRL published a pamphlet called OPERATING AN AMATEUR RADIO STATION. Also helpful is NOW YOU'RE TALKING.

Enjoy the hobby!
Charlie (WD9ITM)

Email Charlie at cemurray@fortwayne.infi.net Editors note: Charlie's article first appeared in the March 1997 issue of the "STATE OF THE ARTS" newsletter and is reprinted here with their permission.

Gosh ole KA9QWC is not going to pass up the golden opportunity to steal an article when the chance arises! What more needs to be said, thanks to Charlie/WD9ITM. □



For Sale

- 45-foot tower, TA33 JR Tri-Bander and TR44 Rotor. \$100.00 if you take down.
- Tri-Bander (disassembled) Make offer. Contact Dean Whitesel WA9RRY at 484-1850

- Autek SWR/POWER meter HF. \$50.00
- Astron DC power supply 35 amp peak. \$100.00
- Alinco Dual Speed Rotor with control \$50.00
- Please Call Dick Erwin N9BNA at 744-9551 Evenings or 745-0825 Days

Wanted

- 35-Foot aluminum tower. Contact Carl Rittenhouse (N9NRO) at 485-4012.

All ads will run on a month by month basis. Please advise me if you need your ad run more than one month or you wish to extend your ad another month.

Thanks and 73s,
Todd Hargis N9XRG

Do you have an interesting article or cartoon which you can contribute to the Hamsplatter? Do you have some spare equipment collecting dust that you might want to sell? If so please contact me, Todd Hargis N9XRG, at 492-2138 (leave detailed message and phone number if no answer) or I can also be reached via e-mail at "hargis@mail.org".

August Hamsplatter Deadline: *August 1, 1997*